

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A coating composition for use in delivering a medicament from the surface of a medical device positioned *in vivo*, the composition comprising a polymeric reagent formed by the polymerization of the following monomers:
  - a) about 1 to about 20 mole % of a polyether monomer,
  - b) about 5 to about 75 mole % of a carboxylic acid-containing monomer, such that the effective ratio of ether groups to carboxylic acid groups in the resultant copolymer is between about 1 to 1 and about 10 to 1,
  - c) optionally, about 0.1 to about 10 mole % of a photoderivatized monomer, and
  - d) an amount of a hydrophilic monomer suitable to bring the composition to 100%.
2. A composition according to claim 1 wherein the polyether monomer comprises an alkoxy (poly)alkyleneglycol (meth)acrylate.
3. A composition according to claim 2 wherein the alkoxy group is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, and butoxy.
4. A composition according to claim 2 wherein the (poly)alkylene glycol component of the alkoxy (poly)alkyleneglycol (meth)acrylate is selected from the group consisting of (poly)propylene glycol and (poly)ethylene glycol.
5. A composition according to claim 4 wherein the (poly)alkylene glycol has a nominal weight average molecular weight ranging from about 200 g/mole to about 2000 g/mole.